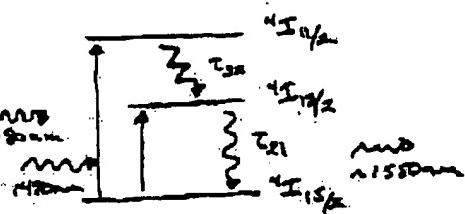
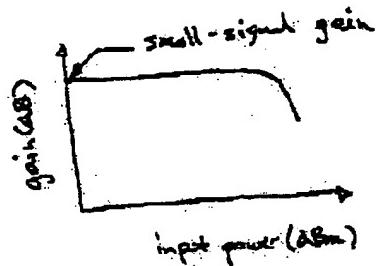


Fig. 1



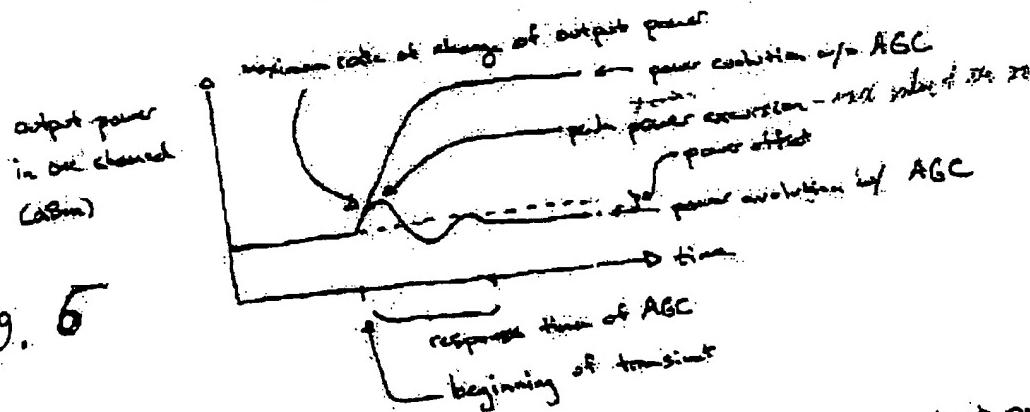
Schematic illustration of relevant energy levels of erbium ions.

Fig. 2



Gain of an EDFA as a function of input signal power.

Fig. 6



Schematic illustration of the evolution of the output power of an EDFA operating under AGC.

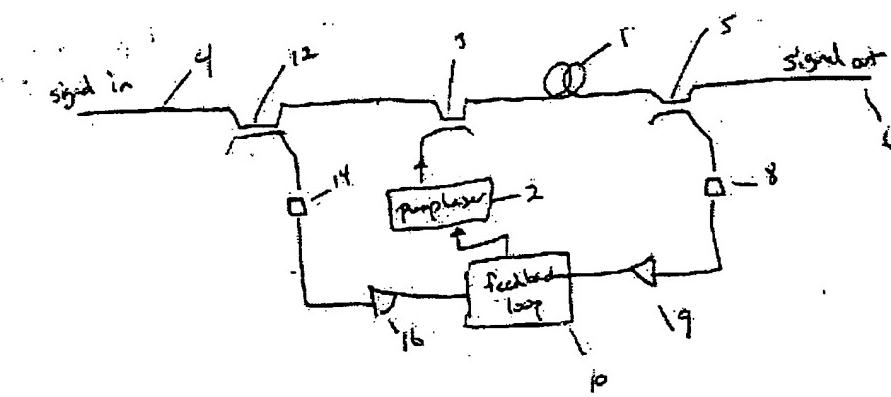


Fig. 3

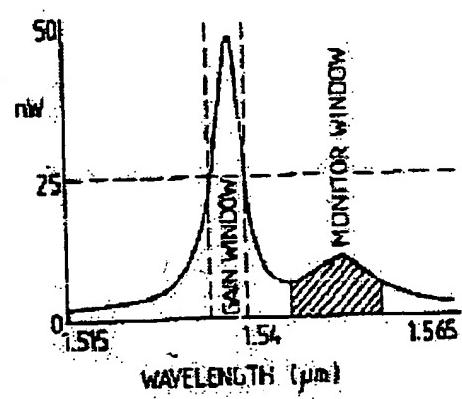


FIG. 4

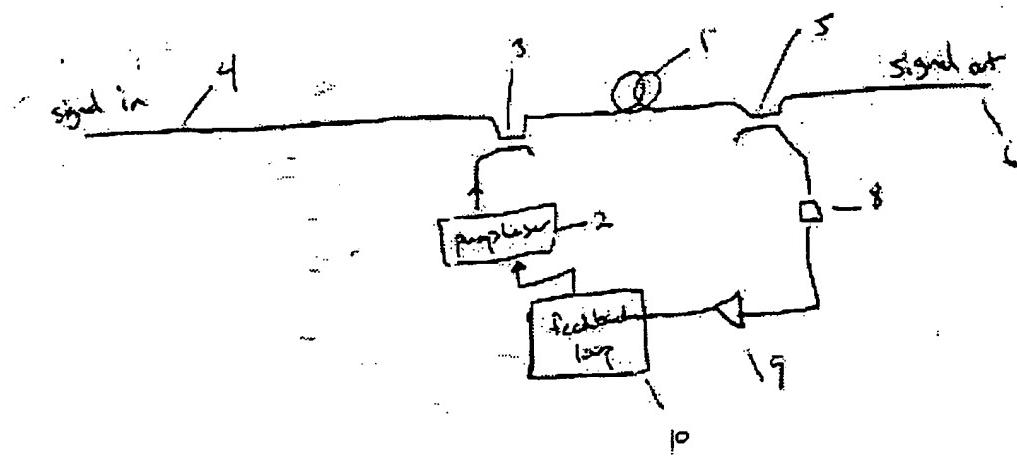


Fig. 5

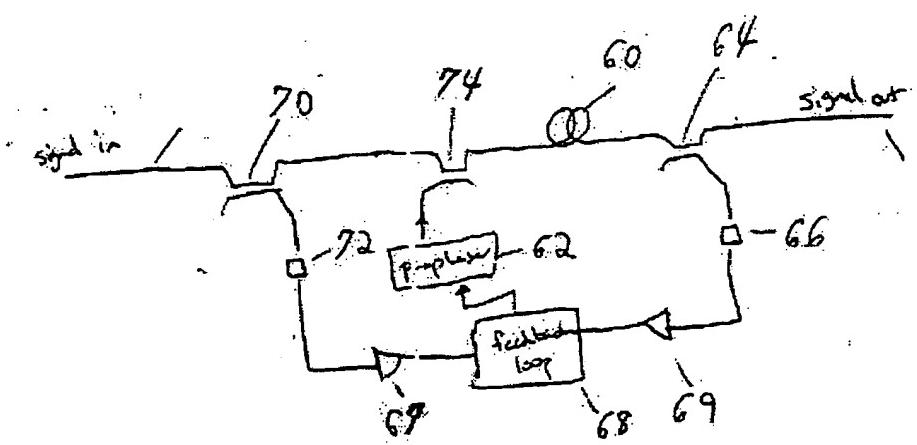


Fig. 7

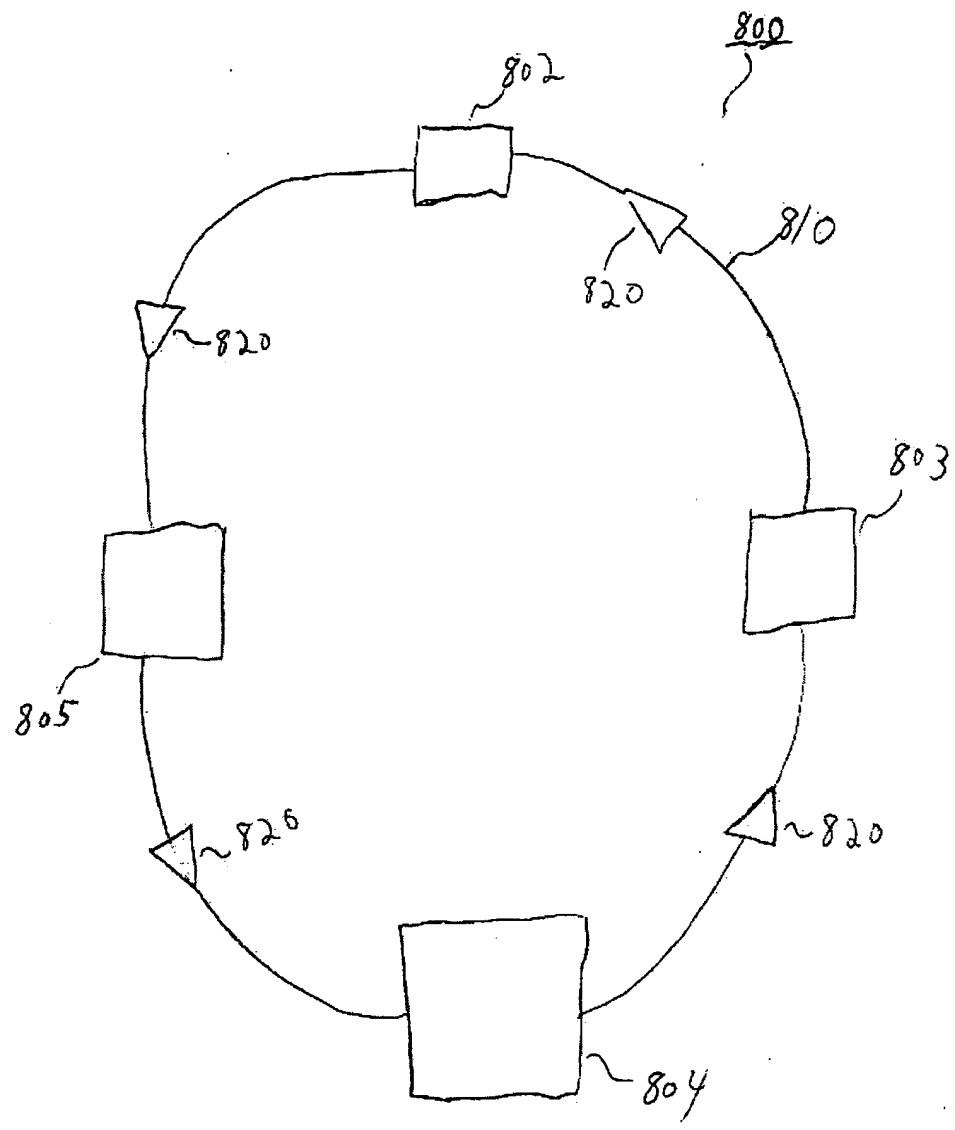


Fig. 8